GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
DEMAND OF SCS/STS COMMISSION
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for SCs/STs has sought permission ofGovernment of India to accord permission to prosecute the persons responsible for atrocities on SCs/STs ;

(b) if so, the response of the government thereto;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the funds allocated for the development of SCs/STs are not being utilised properly by the State Governments;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT.MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Funds allocated for development of SCs/STs by the Ministry of Social Justice andEmpowerment & the Ministry of Tribal Affairs respectively are mainly utilised through the State Govts/UTAdministrations. Some instances of improper utilization have been reported which were referred to the State Govts /UT Administrations concerned forappropriate action. Further the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment &the Ministryof Tribal Affairs have taken several steps for ensuring the proper utilisation of funds, the details of which are in the annexure.

ANNEXURE TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESITON NO.458 TO BE ANSWERED ON:18.4.2001

With a view to utilize the amount provided for implementation of various schemes/programmes for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are taking the following steps:

(i) Release of funds to States/UTs is made on the basis of a detailed examination of the proposals received.

(ii) Utilisation Certificates are insisted upon in respect of past releases before fresh releases are made,

(iii) Periodic progress reports are obtained from the States/UTs, showing the progress ofimplementation of schemes, the beneficiaries covered and other relevant information/data,

(iv) Senior officers from the Ministries visit the States/UTs to assess the progress of implementation of schemes,

(v) Meetings with State Secretaries in charge of the subject are convened to ascertain the progress of implementation of schemes,

(vi) In the case of schemes implemented through Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs)funds are released after obtaining the recommendations of the State Governments/UTsand after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance, etc. Apart from periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish Annual accounts andaudited reports and Utilisation Certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Government/UTofficials, and other authorities and also by Central government officers.